



MEDIA RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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Finding of No Significant Impact Signed

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NM – Col. Hank Andrews, Kirtland Air Force Base installation commander, signed today a Finding of No Significant Impact for Kirtland’s Perimeter Fence Environmental Assessment. The Environmental Assessment covers Kirtland’s proposal to install a security fence approximately one-half mile inside of Kirtland’s eastern boundary.

In accordance with the Environmental Assessment, Kirtland will now construct the fence in such a way that it will follow the natural terrain and will be located as far west as mission and terrain features permit. Approximately 1,500 acres of Kirtland property will remain outside the proposed fence, with all acreage inside the fence line having been deemed essential for mission support.

The public may review the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact at the TVI (Morris Branch) library in Albuquerque and the East Mountain Library in Tijeras. The public can also find the Environmental Assessment on the Kirtland Air Force Base web site at www.kirtland.af.mil.

Kirtland Air Force Base officials will work with the U.S. Forest Service over the next year or more to accomplish an Eastern Boundary Area Use Environmental Assessment for the acreage east of the fence. Kirtland plans to hold a public scoping meeting early in this process to receive the public’s proposals for this land. The proposals will then be evaluated during the Eastern Boundary Area Use Environmental Assessment.

Any alternative use for the land east of the fence requires both an environmental assessment and appropriate remediation of unexploded ordnance before the land can be open for anything other than defense purposes. In the meantime, this land remains off limits to the public.

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Editor’s Note: For more information, call the public affairs office at 846-7018 or 846-5991.